



# Recreation Guide Summer 2025





# Contents

## Table of Contents

- 3 [Message from Council](#)
- 3 [Message from the Parks & Rec Team](#)
- 4 [What's New?](#)
- 5 [Recreation and Parks Month](#)
- 8 [Summer Camps](#)
- 11 [Registered Programs](#)
- 13 [Drop-in Programs](#)
- 14 [Facility Rentals](#)
- 16 [Outdoor Activities](#)
- 20 [Maps](#)
- 26 [Arts, Culture & Heritage](#)
- 27 [Community Events](#)
- 29 [Community Organizations](#)
- 37 [Contact Us](#)

## Summer Session

The Summer session will run from June 2<sup>nd</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

## Registration

Program registration begins Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 5pm

**Click Here to Register**



Or Visit  
[townshipofessa.perfectmind.com](https://townshipofessa.perfectmind.com)



# Message from Council

Essa Residents join Essa Council in welcoming Summer with its sunshine and blue skies. A big thank you to Essa Staff for helping get everyone through the April ice storm safely. New residents and businesses, welcome to our beautiful Township. Essa Parks are getting a clean-up, and Baxter and Elmgrove Parks will receive some new playground equipment. Pickleball enthusiasts, the Thornton arena will have drop-in pickleball starting in June. Angus will have a new skateboard park in July. Thornton and Angus will be having pump tracks installed in July 2025. 5th Line subdivision parks have some exciting updates: The splash pad at the new Maplewood Park will be ready this summer to enjoy. The Mike Hart Park will have a new outdoor arena by mid-July 2025. For more information on existing programs or ideas you would like to share, contact Alex in our program department at 705-424-9917 ext. 107. A friendly reminder that everyone requires an Essa burn permit before having any fires. When in doubt on what you can burn call the Essa Fire Department. Please check our Bylaws before lighting any fireworks to find out where and when this is allowed. Summer is a time when our youngsters are busy walking, riding bikes, or playing in our parks, please drive safely and do the posted speed limits to keep them safe. Our Public Works Department will be very busy with scheduled road projects, bridge repairs and replacement. The urbanization of Simcoe Street Angus will take place over the summer. Join in the fun events scheduled in Essa. On July 1st the Angus Lions Club will host Canada's 158th Birthday and Essa Township's 175th Birthday at the Angus Community Park on Huron Street, Angus. It is a fun filled day for all ages. The Annual Essa Swing for Health Golf Tournament is June 3rd at Bear Creek Golf course in Essa, the proceeds go to Alliston Stevenson Memorial Hospital Foundation Alliston Matthews House Hospice, and Barrie Royal Victoria Hospital. If you would like to be part of this great event please contact Abbey at 705-424-9817 ext.108. We would love to have you help make this event a great success. The Thornton Community annual BBQ, hosted by Re/Max Cross Town Realty, watch for the date in August 2025. Summer brings our baseball season to life in Essa be sure to get out to a game and cheer on our amazing baseball talent. Thank you to the coaches, parents, sponsors, and fans for making this happen for our children. Exciting times for our Students with many of them graduating this year. Congratulations from Essa Council, Staff and Residents. We wish you all the very best in your exciting new chapter. Essa Public Library's awesome Annual Family Fun Night is at the Angus Library Branch August 14th 5 pm to 8 pm. Our website events calendar is updated when announcements are received. Thank you to everyone who is helping to clean up our Communities after the Winter and Spring thaws and beautifying the streets and gardens with flowers and banners. Your Essa Council is always working on your behalf to move Essa forward and to make it a great place to live, work and enjoy what Essa has to offer. Have a fun and safe summer making lasting memories with your family and friends.

Warm Regards,

Your Essa Council

Mayor Sandie, Deputy Mayor Mike

Councillors, Pieter, Henry, Liana

## Message from the Parks & Recreation Team

We're excited to announce the return of our popular camp programs, back for the first time since COVID-19! Along with camps, we've added some exciting new features across the community. Thornton Pickleball drop-ins are available this Summer, and you can celebrate Recreation and Parks Month this June with free drop-in programs during the first week of June. Check out the new outdoor rink coming to Brownley Meadows Park, the new skate park at the Angus Recreation Centre, the new pump tracks coming to the Thornton and Angus arenas, and the new splash pad opening May long weekend at Maplewood Park.

It's a great time to get active and explore all that our parks and programs have to offer. We'll see you out there!

Chris Rankin

Manager of Recreation

# What's new this season?

**Summer Camps Return to Essa**

**New Pickleball Drop-ins at the Thornton Arena**

**New Outdoor Rink coming to Brownley Meadows Park**

**New Skate Park coming to the Angus Recreation Centre**

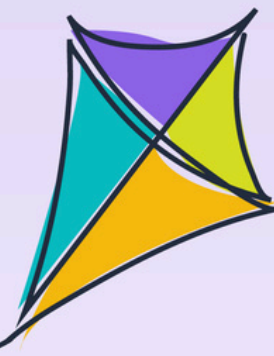
**New Pump Tracks coming to the Thornton and Angus Arenas**

**New Splash Pad open on May long weekend at Maplewood Park**





# JRPM



## JUNE IS RECREATION AND PARKS MONTH



**ENERGIZE**



**GAME CHANGERS**



**LEGACY**



**UNITY**



PRO

JUNE 1-7

## ENERGIZE

#JRPM2025 | #CommunityThrivesHere



JUNE IS RECREATION AND PARKS MONTH



**Celebrate Recreation and Parks Month with Free Drop-In Programs!**  
To kick off Recreation and Parks Month, we're energizing the community with FREE drop-in programs during the first week of June! It's the perfect chance to try something new and get active. Let's get moving together this June!

PRO

JUNE 8-14

## GAME CHANGERS

#JRPM2025 | #CommunityThrivesHere



JUNE IS RECREATION AND PARKS MONTH



During the second week of Recreation and Parks Month, we're celebrating the amazing volunteers, instructors, and Parks and Recreation staff who make our programs and spaces so special.  
Your hard work, passion, and commitment help build a stronger, healthier community. Thank you for all that you do!



PRO

JUNE 15-21

LEGACY

#JRPM2025 | #CommunityThrivesHere



JUNE IS RECREATION AND PARKS MONTH



7

This week, we celebrate the lasting impact of our parks, green spaces, and conservation efforts. These natural treasures are more than places to play, they're part of the environmental legacy we leave for future generations.

Let's protect, respect, and enjoy our outdoor spaces so they can continue to inspire and support our community for years to come.

PRO

JUNE 22-28

UNITY

#JRPM2025 | #CommunityThrivesHere



JUNE IS RECREATION AND PARKS MONTH



Parks and recreation bring us together. They create spaces where people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities can connect, belong, and thrive. These shared experiences are a vital part of our communities and a reflection of our Canadian identity.

Let's celebrate what unites us.  
See you out there!



# Summer Camps

## Sports Camp Jr

In partnership with Elevation Athletics. Campers will learn the fundamentals of multiple sports including basketball, soccer, badminton and pickleball over the week. Campers will participate in skills and drills that focus on developing hand eye coordination, foot work, technique and team building skills. There will also be exciting and stimulating games, activities and crafts to make for an action packed and fun filled day!

**Location:** Angus Recreation Centre - Gymnasium

**Age:** 6-8

**Times:** 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Drop Off:** 9:00 am - 9:30 am

**Pick Up:** 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

**Capacity:** 10 Campers

July 7 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup>	\$195.00
July 14 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup>	\$195.00
July 28 <sup>th</sup> - August 1 <sup>st</sup>	\$195.00
August 5 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	\$156.00

## Sports Camp Sr

In partnership with Elevation Athletics. Campers will learn the fundamentals of multiple sports including basketball, soccer, badminton and pickleball over the week. Campers will participate in skills and drills that focus on developing hand eye coordination, foot work, technique and team building skills. There will also be exciting and stimulating games, activities and crafts to make for an action packed and fun filled day!

**Location:** Angus Recreation Centre - Gymnasium

**Age:** 9-12

**Times:** 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Drop Off:** 9:00 am - 9:30 am

**Pick Up:** 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

**Capacity:** 10 Campers

July 7 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup>	\$195.00
July 14 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup>	\$195.00
July 28 <sup>th</sup> - August 1 <sup>st</sup>	\$195.00
August 5 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	\$156.00

## Registration

Program registration begins Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 5pm.

Register online at [townshipofessa.perfectmind.com](https://townshipofessa.perfectmind.com)



## Basketball Camp Jr

In partnership with Elevation Athletics. Campers will learn the fundamentals of basketball over the week. Campers will participate in skills and drills that focus on developing hand eye coordination, foot work, technique and team building skills. There will also be exciting and stimulating games, activities and crafts to make for an action packed and fun filled day!

**Location:** Angus Recreation Centre - Gymnasium

**Age:** 6-8

**Times:** 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Drop Off:** 9:00 am - 9:30 am

**Pick Up:** 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

**Capacity:** 10 Campers

July 21 <sup>st</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup>	\$195.00
August 11 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup>	\$195.00

## Basketball Camp Sr

In partnership with Elevation Athletics. Campers will learn the fundamentals of basketball over the week. Campers will participate in skills and drills that focus on developing hand eye coordination, foot work, technique and team building skills. There will also be exciting and stimulating games, activities and crafts to make for an action packed and fun filled day!

**Location:** Angus Recreation Centre - Gymnasium

**Age:** 9-12

**Times:** 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Drop Off:** 9:00 am - 9:30 am

**Pick Up:** 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

**Capacity:** 10 Campers

July 21 <sup>st</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup>	\$195.00
August 11 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup>	\$195.00

## Morning Care

Need a little extra time before drop-off at the Angus Recreation Centre? Our Extended Care Program provides a safe, supervised environment for campers outside of regular camp hours.

**Location:** Angus Recreation Centre - Gymnasium

**Age:** 6-12

**Times:** 8:00 am - 9:00 am

**Capacity:** 10 Campers

July 7 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup>	\$25.00
July 14 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup>	\$25.00
July 21 <sup>st</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup>	\$25.00
July 28 <sup>th</sup> - August 1 <sup>st</sup>	\$25.00
August 5 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	\$20.00
August 11 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup>	\$25.00

## Afternoon Care

Need a little extra time after pick-up at the Angus Recreation Centre? Our Extended Care Program provides a safe, supervised environment for campers outside of regular camp hours.

**Location:** Angus Recreation Centre - Arena Floor

**Age:** 6-12

**Times:** 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Capacity:** 10 Campers

July 7 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup>	\$25.00
July 14 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup>	\$25.00
July 21 <sup>st</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup>	\$25.00
July 28 <sup>th</sup> - August 1 <sup>st</sup>	\$25.00
August 5 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	\$20.00
August 11 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup>	\$25.00

## Yoga & Arts Camp

In partnership with Side Door Yoga studio. A week of movement, mindfulness, and creativity at our Kids Yoga Camp! Perfect for children ages 6-11 years. This camp combines yoga, games, crafts, and storytelling to help kids build strength, focus, confidence, and calm. Each day includes gentle yoga poses, breathing exercises, teamwork activities, and time to play. Whether your child is new to yoga or already loves it, they'll enjoy exploring and playing in a supportive environment.

### Highlights:

- Weekly themed yoga and activities
- Mindful games & movement activities
- Arts, crafts & nature time
- Relaxation and breathing tools
- Fun, safe, and inclusive space for all

**Location:** Albert Breau Community Park - Community Park Hall

**Age:** 6-11

**Times:** 7:30 am - 5:00 pm

**Drop Off:** 7:30 am - 9:00 am

**Pick Up:** 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Capacity:** 20 Campers

July 7 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup>	\$240.00
July 21 <sup>st</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup>	\$240.00
August 18 <sup>th</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup>	\$240.00
August 25 <sup>th</sup> - 29 <sup>th</sup>	\$240.00



The Township of Essa is committed to the delivery of quality child recreation programming and is a proud HIGH FIVE® Registered Organization! HIGH FIVE is a quality assurance standard for children's recreation and sport. To learn more about HIGH FIVE® visit the website by clicking [HERE](#)

HIGH FIVE® A quality standard for recreation and sport programs. Founded by Parks and Recreation Ontario.

## Registration

Program registration begins Friday, May 16th, 2025  
at 5pm.

Register online at [townshipofessa.perfectmind.com](https://townshipofessa.perfectmind.com)



# Registered Programs

## VON SMART

### Seniors Maintaining Active Roles Together

The VON SMART (Seniors Maintaining Active Roles Together)® program offers group exercise classes to community members 55 years and older or any adult living with a disability who wants to improve their strength, balance and mobility through low-impact exercise. The exercise classes are facilitated by fitness instructors and/or volunteers who receive specialized training and ongoing education to deliver safe exercise programs for all levels of ability. Participants are encouraged to work at their own pace, wear comfortable clothing and supportive shoes. The exercises can be completed seated or standing. Participants can sign themselves up for group classes or be referred by a healthcare provider, family or friend. The program is fully funded, so there is no cost to participate.

**Pre-Registration with the VON Office is required prior to participating in the VON SMART Exercise Program. Please call 705-737-5044 ext 225 and leave a brief message with your name, number and class location you would like to register for (i.e. Thornton Community Centre). We will get back to you as soon as possible to complete the registration over the phone.**

**Location:** Thornton Community Centre - Meeting Room

**Price:** Free

**Age:** 55+

MON	10:30 AM	1 HR	Jun 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Aug 25 <sup>th</sup>	Ongoing
-----	----------	------	---	---------

*No Class: July 21<sup>st</sup> & August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025*



## Sunset Stretch Outdoor Yoga

This 60 minute summertime outdoor yoga class is designed to be accessible and beneficial for all students of all levels. We focus on movement, breath awareness, stretching and relaxation. Bring your own yoga mat, water and any yoga equipment you may use (ie, blocks, straps). Parking is available at the library.

**Location:** Thornton Gazebo (across from the library)

**Price:** \$52.00 (4 WKS) / \$65.00 (5 WKS)

**Age:** 18+

WED	7 PM	1 HR	Jun 4 <sup>th</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup>	4 WKS
-----	------	------	--	-------

No Class: N/A

WED	7 PM	1 HR	Jul 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup>	5 WKS
-----	------	------	--	-------

No Class: N/A

WED	7 PM	1 HR	Aug 6 <sup>th</sup> - 27 <sup>th</sup>	4 WKS
-----	------	------	--	-------

No Class: N/A



## Monkeynastix

This fun 5 week fitness movement education program designed for children ages 1-4 focuses on gross and fine motor skills, balance, coordination, spatial and body awareness utilizing a variety of safe activities with specialized equipment and music.

**Location:** Angus Recreation Centre - Gymnasium

**Price:** \$90

**Age:** 1-2 years

WED	5 PM	30 MIN	Jun 11 <sup>th</sup> - Jul 9 <sup>th</sup>	5 WKS
-----	------	--------	--	-------

No Class: N/A

WED	5 PM	30 MIN	Jul 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Aug 20 <sup>th</sup>	5 WKS
-----	------	--------	---	-------

No Class: N/A

**Location:** Angus Recreation Centre - Gymnasium

**Price:** \$90

**Age:** 2-3 years

WED	5:45 PM	30 MIN	Jun 11 <sup>th</sup> - Jul 9 <sup>th</sup>	5 WKS
-----	---------	--------	--	-------

No Class: N/A

WED	5:45 PM	30 MIN	Jul 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Aug 20 <sup>th</sup>	5 WKS
-----	---------	--------	---	-------

No Class: N/A

**Location:** Angus Recreation Centre - Gymnasium

**Price:** \$90

**Age:** 3-4 years

WED	6:30 PM	30 MIN	Jun 11 <sup>th</sup> - Jul 9 <sup>th</sup>	5 WKS
-----	---------	--------	--	-------

No Class: N/A

WED	6:30 PM	30 MIN	Jul 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Aug 20 <sup>th</sup>	5 WKS
-----	---------	--------	---	-------

No Class: N/A

## Registration

Program registration begins Friday,  
May 16th, 2025 at 5pm.  
Register online at  
[townshipofessa.perfectmind.com](http://townshipofessa.perfectmind.com)



# Drop-in Programs

## Angus

### Pickleball Drop-in (Ages 11+)

A dynamic paddle sport blending elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong, played on a compact court with a unique perforated ball, offering fast-paced fun for all adults. Paddles and balls are available.

**Location:** Angus Recreation Centre

**Times:** Mondays & Wednesdays (7:30 pm - 9:30 pm)

**Exclusion Dates:** Aug 4<sup>th</sup>

### Drop-in Prices (Cash Only)

<b>Ages 0-4: \$2</b>	<b>Ages 18-64: \$5</b>
<b>Ages 5-17: \$3</b>	<b>Ages 65+: \$4</b>

**Free for the first week of June for  
Recreation and Parks Month!  
(June 2nd - 8th)**

## Thornton

### Pickleball Drop-in (Ages 11+)

A dynamic paddle sport blending elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong, played on a compact court with a unique perforated ball, offering fast-paced fun for all adults and youth. Paddles and balls are available.

**Location:** Thornton Community Centre

**Times:** Tuesdays (9:00 am - 10:30 am) &  
Wednesdays (5:00 pm - 7 pm)

**Exclusion Dates:** July 22<sup>nd</sup>

New  
Program



*\*All drop-in times are subject to change.*

*Please refer to the schedule online for the most up-to-date schedule. Click [HERE](#) for the online schedule.*

# Facility Rentals

THORNTON  
COMMUNITY CENTRE

## Facilities

The Township of Essa offers a diverse array of facility rental options within Angus, Thornton, Baxter and Utopia. Whether you are planning a private event, family gathering, birthday party or tournament, we have the perfect venue to make your occasion unforgettable!

## Hall Rentals

All rentals with alcohol are subject to the Municipal Alcohol Risk Management Policy and Agreement.

Please click [HERE](#) to complete and submit a rental request form.

Visit the Facility Rentals webpage by clicking [HERE](#) to view the Fees Schedule and to find out more information about facility rentals.

## Rental opportunities include:

Gymnasium  
Ice & Floor Pads  
Halls & Meeting Rooms  
Pavilions & Park Spaces  
Sports Fields & Diamonds  
Outdoor Pads

## Want to Get Your Business Noticed? Advertise with us!

- Arena Rink Wall (4' x 8') - \$250.00
- Arena Rink Board (2.5' x 5') - \$400.00
- Changeroom Door (3" x 12") - \$200.00
- Ice Resurfacer - \$2,500.00
- Advertisement on Rink Surface - \$850.00
- Letter-sized, framed wall ad for Community Centres - \$100.00
- Banner for Dog Park/Sports Field (4'x10') - \$100.00

## For Rental and Advertising Inquiries Contact:



(705) 424-9917 ext. 108



[parksandrec@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:parksandrec@essatownship.on.ca)



## Angus Recreation Centre

8529 County Road 10

This multi-purpose facility features a full-sized rink, gymnasium, fully equipped hall and skatepark. From hockey, indoor soccer and fitness classes, to dances and birthday parties, the Centre can accommodate a wide variety of functions all year round.



## Outdoor Pads

Various Locations

The Township of Essa is equipped with 3 Outdoor Pads for Community use and rentals. Perfect for a game of ball hockey!



## Thornton Community Centre

246 Barrie Street

This multi-purpose facility features a full-sized rink, fully equipped hall, outdoor splash pad, ball diamond and park. This facility is perfect for all your event needs.



## Baseball Diamonds

Various Locations

The Township of Essa has many baseball diamonds in its inventory. Diamonds are located in Angus, Baxter, Thornton, Ivy and Elmgrove. Available for Community use and rentals.



To view more information about facilities and rentals click [HERE](#)



# Outdoor Activities

## Parks

The Township of Essa offers a diverse array of parks and open spaces for residents and visitors to utilize. With all our offerings, there's something for everyone in our parks and facilities to enjoy!

Communities within the Township of Essa have access to many enjoyable outdoor spaces and parks, including ball diamonds, soccer fields, dog parks, playgrounds, splash pads, skate parks, fishing parks, and multi-sport courts used for basketball and pickleball. During the summer season, these facilities are open and ready for use, offering a wide range of recreational opportunities for residents of all ages. We encourage everyone to take advantage of the warm weather by enjoying our parks, trails, and outdoor amenities for activities such as walking, biking, picnicking, sports, and water play.



## Dog Parks

The Township of Essa is home to two dog parks located in Thornton and Angus. When visiting a dog park, please remember...

- Owners will be held liable for all actions of their dog
- Owners must be present at all times
- No other animals allowed
- All owners are responsible to **"Stoop and Scoop"** and to dispose of excrement in the appropriate waste receptacles

## Splash Pads

The Township of Essa currently has three splash pads, which are open from Victoria Day to Labour Day each calendar year. The hours of operation for the Splash Pads are 10:00 am to 8:00 pm, however Post-Labour Day hours are on a "weather permitting" basis.

Splash Pads are located at the following locations:

- Angus Community Park, 6 Huron Street, Angus
- Thornton Arena Ball Park, 246 Barrie Street, Thornton
- Maplewood Park, 191 Maplewood Drive, Angus





## Fishing

The Township of Essa is home to four designated fishing parks, which are scattered throughout the Township. These designated fishing parks are enjoyed by many fishing enthusiasts year-round. The designated fishing parks are located at the following locations:



**Essa Centennial Park**  
**Angus Community Park**  
**Nottawasaga Fishing Park**  
**Don Ross Drive Park**

### Did you know you need a Fishing Access Pass to fish on Essa Township property?

The money collected from the fishing access passes goes back into maintaining our parks for all anglers to enjoy. Seasonal or Day Fish Passes can be purchased at the township office or online [HERE](#).



## All-Terrain Vehicles

The Township of Essa is fortunate to have many beautiful natural spaces, please respect the natural environment while enjoying the recreation it offers. Under By-Law 2021-16 All-Terrain and Off-Road Vehicles are approved to travel on ALL municipal roads under the jurisdiction of the Township of Essa.

Off-road vehicles are allowed on permitted roadways between the hours of 7:00am and 11:00pm and are prohibited between 11:00pm and 7:00am

20KM per hour on roadways with a posted speed limit of 50KM per hour or less. 50KM per hour on roadways with a posted speed limit of greater than 50KM per hour.

For more information on By-Law 2021-16 visit the Township of Essa website by clicking [HERE](#).



## Trails

### Township of Essa

The following trails are maintained by the Township of Essa:

#### **Pine River Trail**

The Pine River Trail is a 1.5 km trail that meanders through the Nottawasaga Fishing Park and LeClair Park. Enjoy the picturesque Nottawasaga River while hiking this trail.

#### **Rippon Trail**

The Rippon Trail is a 1 km trail that connects Peacekeepers Park at the north end of Mill Street to the Nottawasaga Fishing Park, and the Pine River Trail.

#### **Thornton Cookstown Trail**

The Thornton Cookstown Trans-Canada Trail is a 15.6 km shared use trail between the villages of Thornton and Cookstown. This trail is a part of nearly 24,000 km of trail that goes through 13 provinces and territories. It travels through green pasture land and forest, and crosses the Cookstown Creek.



### County of Simcoe

The following trails are located in the Township of Essa but maintained by the County of Simcoe:

- **Baxter Tract of Simcoe County Forest**
- **Foster Tract of Simcoe County Forest**

The County of Simcoe provides nature and hiking enthusiasts with a plethora of trails scattered throughout Simcoe County forests.

For information on these tracts, please contact the County of Simcoe at 705-726-9300.

### Conservation Area Trails

The following trails are located in Essa and are maintained by local conservation authorities

#### **Utopia Conservation Area Trails**

The Utopia Conservation trails encompass an area of 100 acres which is used as passive green space. The conservation area is open to the public for passive recreation and features the historic Utopia Grist Mill.

#### **Tiffin Conservation Area (Tiffin Centre Loop Trail)**

The Tiffin Centre is a spectacular place for a walk or to bring your gear and bike, cross-country ski or snowshoe on 5 km of looped trails that meander through a mixture of wetlands, forests, open meadows and ancient lake beds. It is home to the Tiffin Centre Loop Trail, which is situated in the Township of Essa.

#### **Tiffin Conservation Area (Tiffin Centre Loop Trail)**

The Tiffin Centre is a spectacular place for a walk or to bring your gear and bike, cross-country ski or snowshoe on 5 km of looped trails that meander through a mixture of wetlands, forests, open meadows and ancient lake beds. It is home to the Tiffin Centre Loop Trail, which is situated in the Township of Essa.

#### **Ganaraska Hiking Trail**

The Mad River section of the Ganaraska Hiking Trail encompasses a 50.5 km section of trail that runs through Angus and Glencairn. The trail follows the Mad River in the direction of Creemore and Glen Huron, where the Ganaraska Trail meets the Bruce Trail.

This trail is maintained by the Ganaraska Hiking Trail Association. For more information about this trail, please contact the [Ganaraska Hiking Trail Association Inc.](#)

Click [HERE](#) for more information on trails in the Township of Essa.





## Bicycle Safety

Every bike ride begins with putting on a helmet. It's important to wear a helmet that fits correctly. Wearing a helmet while riding your bike is the law in Ontario for cyclists under 18. It's important to be safe while riding your bike. We have compiled a list of bike safety tips that should be followed to have a safe enjoyable ride.

- Always wear a helmet
- Wear bright clothing
- Make sure your bike has reflectors mounted on the front and back
- Ride a bike that fits
- If riding on the road, ride in a straight line on the right side of the road in the same direction as traffic
- Know the rules of the road
- If riding on the sidewalk, be mindful of pedestrians
- Walk your bike across streets and make sure you look all ways for traffic
- Ride in a straight line
- Use hand signals

Left Turn



Right Turn



Stop



## Operation Brain Freeze

In 2021, the Township of Essa initiated its Operation Brain Freeze campaign to promote safe cycling etiquette, with a focus on the importance of wearing properly-fitted helmets.

Operation Brain Freeze is a well loved program that allows Municipal Law Enforcement Officers to interact with youth in our communities that practice safe cycling and wear properly fitted helmets. Youth that are "caught" by Officers are awarded a certificate, a voucher for a frozen treat, in addition to a bike safety booklet from the Ministry of Transportation.

In 2022, Essa expanded Operation Brain Freeze to include a monthly draw to award a prize. When youth are "caught" by Municipal Law Enforcement Officers, their name will also go into a monthly draw for the chance to win bicycle safety equipment!



Operation Brain Freeze runs from June 1<sup>st</sup> to September 31<sup>st</sup> each calendar year. We would like to wish all youth the best of luck in getting "caught", and remember - CYCLE SAFELY!!

# Maps

**Essa Township is home to a variety of trails, parks, facilities, and conservation areas. Explore where they are located below!**

## Thornton

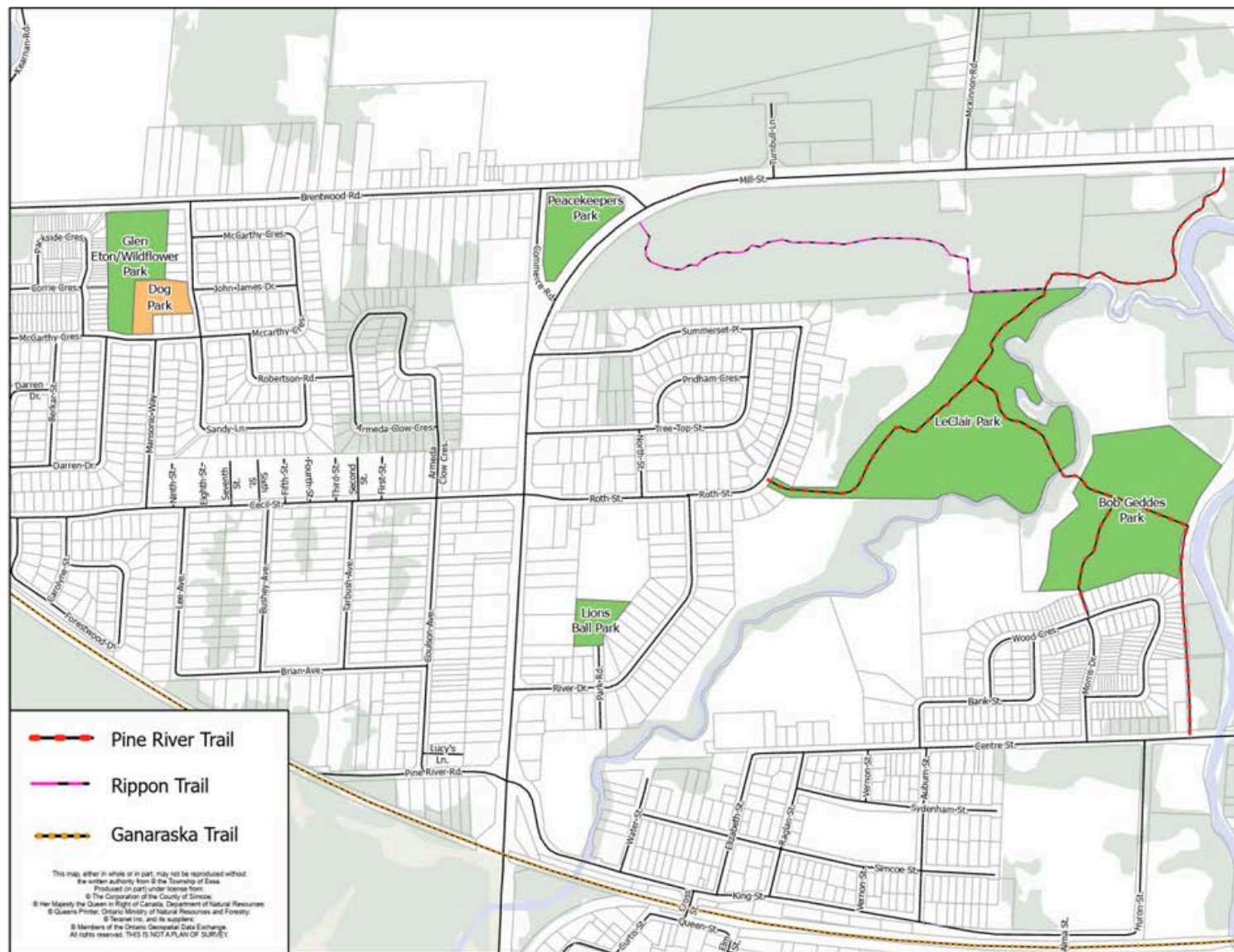


**Burke Family Park:** 35 Kevin Crescent  
**Earl Cunningham Park:** 3 Henry Street  
**Thornton Arena Park:** 246 Barrie Street

**Thornton Arena:** 246 Barrie Street  
**Thornton Arena Ball Park:** 246 Barrie Street  
**Thornton Soccer Pitches/Dog Park:** 4256 7th Line

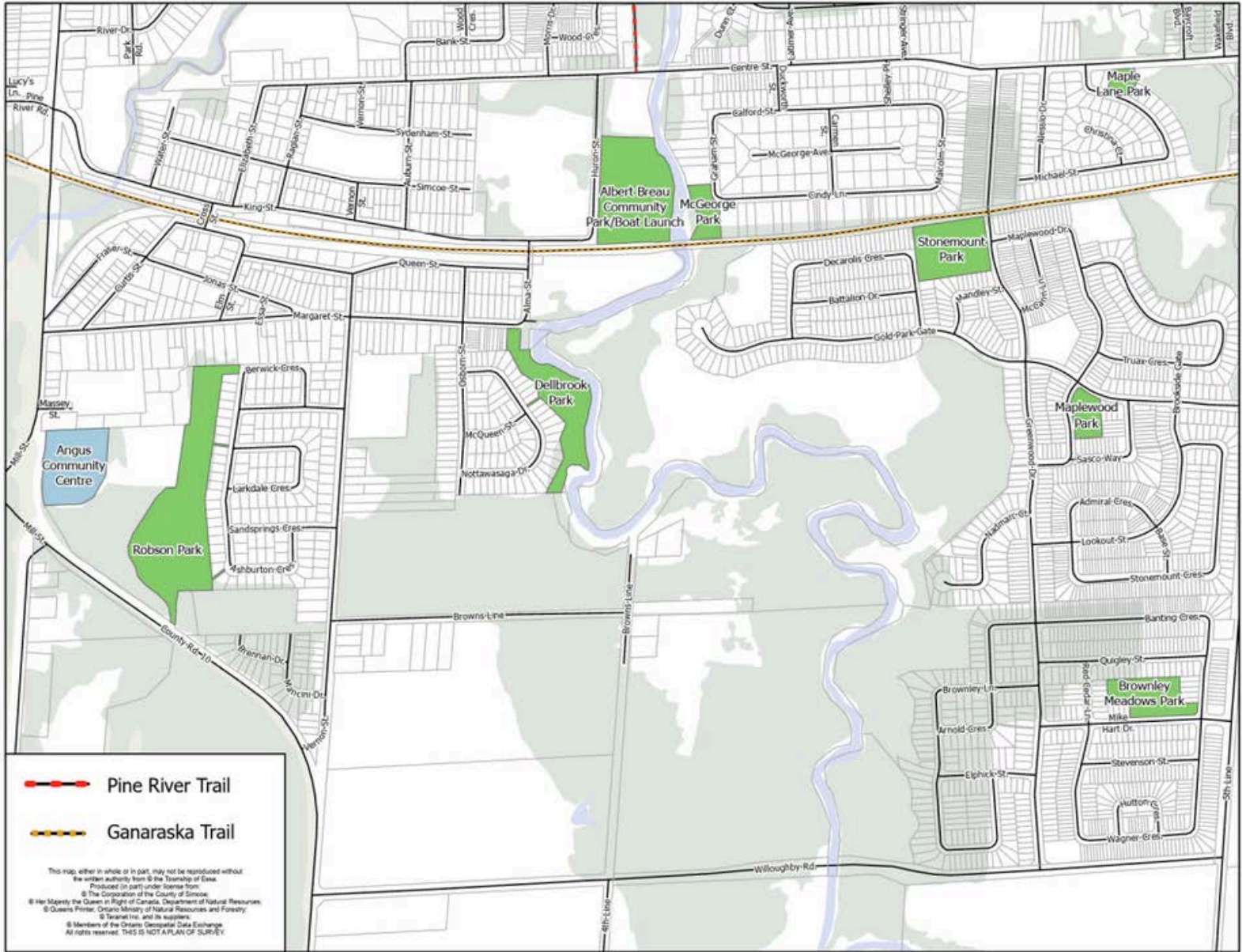


## North Angus



**Bob Geddes Park: 147 Centre Street**  
**Glen Eton/Wildflower Park/Dog Park: 42 McCarthy Crescent**  
**Lions Ball Park: 4 Park Road**  
**LeClair Park: 54 Roth Street**  
**Peacekeepers Park: 12 Commerce Drive**

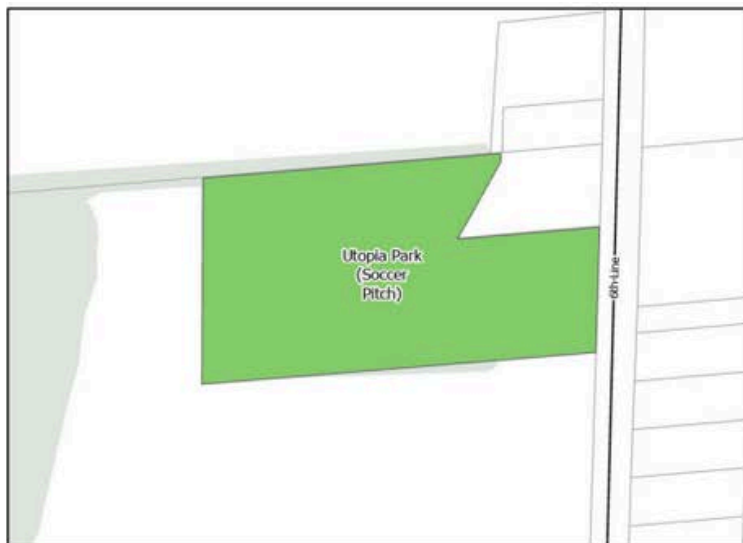
## South Angus



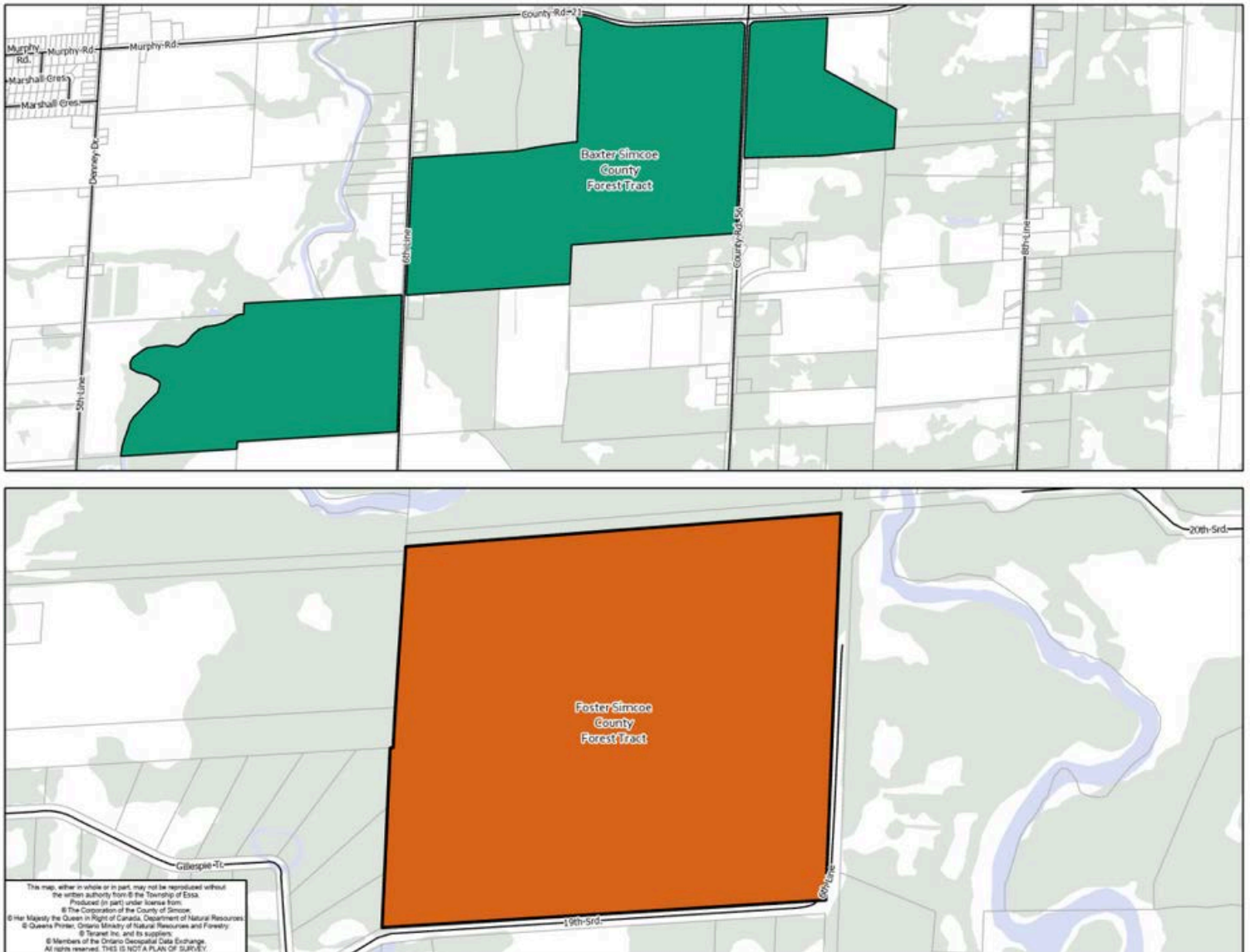
**Albert Breau Community Park/Boat Launch:** 6 Huron Street  
**Angus Community Centre:** 8529 CR 10  
**Brownley Meadows Park:** 60 Mike Hart Drive  
**Dellbrook Park:** 240 Margaret Street  
**McGeorge Park:** 107 Graham Street  
**Maplewood Park:** 191 Maplewood Drive  
**Maple Lane Park:** 8 Michael Street  
**Robson Park:** 23 Berwick Crescent



## Rural Parks



Egbert Park: 5200 10th Sideroad  
 Elmgrove Ball Park: 6580 5th Sideroad  
 Utopia Park (Soccer Pitch): 8378 6th Line  
 Victoria Ball Park: 5079 20th Sideroad



**Baxter Simcoe County Forest Tract:** Located across from the Township of Essa Administration Building (5786 CR 21)  
**Foster Simcoe County Forest Tract:** Located off of the 19th Sideroad and 6th Line





**Tiffin Conservation Area:**  
8195 8th Line

For more information,  
click [HERE](#)



**Utopia Conservation Area:** 8609 6th Line

For more  
information,  
click [HERE](#)



# Arts, Culture & Heritage

## Building Origins

### Thornton Community Centre

The Thornton Arena was built on land donated by the Stewart Family and the first artificial ice was installed in 1969. A fire in September 1973 led to a rebuild and reopening of a new Arena in the same spot in the fall of 1975.

### Angus Recreation Centre

In 1972 Angus residents came together to fund raise for an Arena. With the clearing of trees and debris, hard work, holding dances, raffles and soliciting for funds, the doors to the Arena finally opened in September 1977.

### Thornton Library

For many years, the Thornton Library operated out of the back of a local store. The current location of the Thornton Library opened in November 1997.

### Angus Library

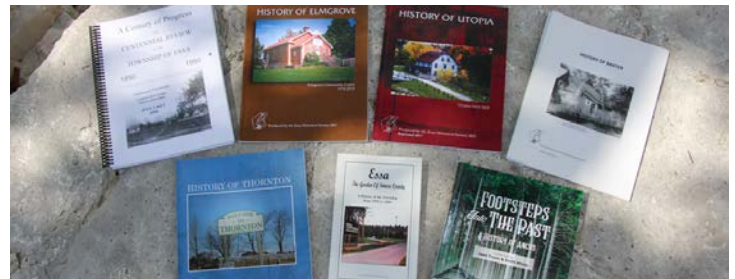
The current Angus branch building opened in 2011. The previous space was in use from 1967 to 2011.

## Historical Books

Are you interested in the history surrounding the Township of Essa?

The following books are available for purchase at the Essa Public Library or the Administration Centre:

- "Footsteps Into the Past: A History of Angus"
- "Essa: The Garden of Simcoe County"
- "History of Utopia: Utopia Grist Mill"
- "History of Thornton"
- "History of Ivy"
- "History of Egbert"
- "History of Elmgrove"



## Organizations

### Community Arts and Cultural Organizations

- Maclaren Art Centre: Hub for contemporary art and cultural programming.
- South Simcoe Arts Council: Promotes arts in the South Simcoe region.

### Cultural Enterprises and Museums

- Borden Museum: Showcases military history and the heritage of CFB Borden.
- Museum on the Boyne: Preserves the history of the Alliston area.
- Simcoe County Museum: Features exhibits on Simcoe County's history and culture.

### Cultural Heritage

- Utopia Grist Mill: Preserves milling heritage.

### Cultural Spaces and Facilities

- Essa and District Agriplex: Hosts various agricultural and community events.

### Festivals and Events

- Barrie Fair: Held at the Essa and District Agriplex.
- Essa Salmon Derby: Fishing competition held in Angus

### Natural Heritage

- Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority: Conserves natural resources of the Nottawasaga Valley.
- Peacekeepers Park: Honors peacekeepers.
- Pine River Trail & Thornton Cookstown Trail: Scenic trails for outdoor activities.



# Community Events

## Community Events

Our community events bring people of all ages with exciting activities, entertainment, and opportunities to meet neighbours and make memories. Stay active, get involved, and experience the best of what our community has to offer. Check out our upcoming events and mark your calendar!

**Do you have a community event you  
want to promote next Fall?  
Contact [ajacobs@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:ajacobs@essatownship.on.ca)  
to learn more**



ANGUS LIONS CLUB PRESENTS

# CANADA DAY

**TUESDAY JULY 1ST 2025**

## MUSIC, GAMES, GIVEAWAYS & MORE

Come celebrate Canada's 158th birthday and Essa Township's 175th milestone with an unforgettable day of fun, music, and community spirit!

- Giveaways
- Free Games for Children
- Beer Tent by the Angus Legion
- Live Music & Entertainment
- Karaoke Fun
- Food & Market Vendors On Site
- Fire Vehicle Display

Bring your friends, family, and festive spirit—let's make this celebration one to remember!

**FESTIVITIES BEGIN AT 9 AM**

## ALBERT BREAU COMMUNITY PARK

6 Huron Street, Angus





# Community Organizations

## Community Organizations

Our community is home to a variety of organizations that bring people together, support local initiatives, and enhance the quality of life for residents of all ages. Explore some of the offerings in our community in the following pages.



**Are you involved with an organization that supports the community and want to promote your services this Fall?**

**Contact [ajacobs@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:ajacobs@essatownship.on.ca) to learn more**



**ESSA AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
& THORNTON DISTRICT LIONS CLUB**

# **POST-SECONDARY AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM**

**\$1000 BURSARY**

**[ESSAAGRIPLEX.CA](http://ESSAAGRIPLEX.CA)**





# SUMMER AT THE LIBRARY

Sign up for e-newsletters and be the first to hear about upcoming programs.

Kids earn rewards when you get your read on with the Summer Fun Club

Check out our events calendar at  
[essalibrary.ca](http://essalibrary.ca)



**DROP-IN**

# Chair Yoga

32



**Every Wednesday @ 1:30**

**Angus Recreation Centre Gym**





BELONGING, WELL-BEING, EXPRESSION AND ENGAGEMENT.

# Early ON

Child and Family Centre

# ANGUS

SATELLITE LOCATION

## PROGRAMS

### STAY, PLAY & LEARN

**Ages 0-6 years old**

Parents, caregivers and their children utilize our open space to engage with each other through play, exploration and imagination.



### BABY & ME

**Ages 0-12 months old**

Come with your little one to enjoy sing-a-longs, storytime and baby play while connecting with other parents and caregivers.



### PARENT CHILD MOTHER GOOSE (infant)

**Ages 0-18 months old**

Enjoy this 5 or 10 week program with no toys, or materials as we focus on the intimate connection with you and your baby and building attachment through rhymes, stories and songs.



Do you have questions or concerns about your **child's development**? Ask us how we can support you through our developmental screenings and to connect you with our community partners.

VISIT [WWW.E3.CA](http://WWW.E3.CA) TO REGISTER FOR OUR PROGRAMS AND TO SEE OUR SCHEDULE

8527 County Rd 10, Angus, ON L0M 1B0  
(Behind the Angus Recreation Center Arena)



[www.e3.ca](http://www.e3.ca)



(705) 435-4308





# Borden Family Resource Centre

The Borden Family Resource Centre provides community based family services which support and enhance the quality of life of the CFB Borden community.



## The Centre provides support to...

- CAF Members, Veterans, DND civilian employees and their immediate families
- Families and other individuals of significance to CAF members who have died while serving
- Others who provide direct support to the CAF

## Le Centre de ressources à la famille de Borden

Le Centre de ressources à la famille de Borden offre des services communautaires axés sur les familles qui soutiennent et qui améliorent la qualité de vie de la communauté de la BFC Borden.



## Le Centre offre du soutien aux suivants...

- Membres des FAC, les vétérans, employés civils du MDN ainsi que les membres de leur famille immédiate
- Familles et autres personnes importantes pour les membres des FAC qui sont morts en service
- Autres personnes qui appuient les FAC



## Information

**Building E-182**

**56 Gibraltar Road**

**Borden, ON**

**L0M 1C0**

**705-424-1200 Ext. 3994**

**[bordenfamilyresourcecentre@gmail.com](mailto:bordenfamilyresourcecentre@gmail.com)**  
**[cfmws.ca](http://cfmws.ca)**

Follow Us!

Suivez-nous !



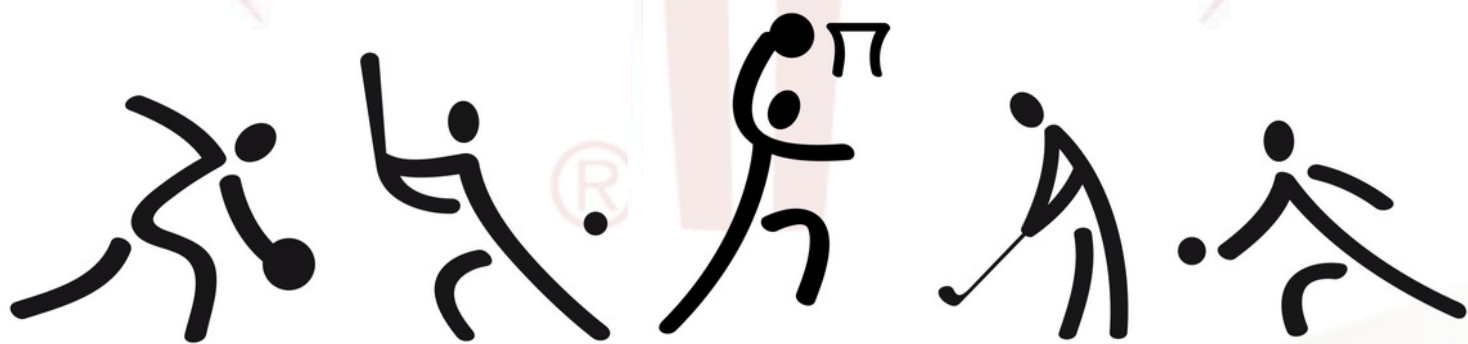




Special Olympics enriches the lives of athletes with an intellectual disability through sport training and competition

Athletes of all ages participate in volunteer-led, season-long sport programs in communities across South Simcoe

Empowering individuals through sport and community, our local programs offer athletes a chance to stay active, build confidence, and connect with others in a supportive environment



For more information on becoming involved as a volunteer or athlete, please contact:  
 Hellaina Rothenburg, Program Consultant  
[hellainar@specialolympicsontario.com](mailto:hellainar@specialolympicsontario.com) 1-888-333-5515



# ASC UNITED

PLAY WITH THE BEST, TRAIN WITH THE BEST, BE THE BEST!



ANGUS YOUTH  
SOCCER CLUB

VOTED # 1

REGISTER NOW!

SUMMER LEAGUES  
BEGIN MAY 20, 2025

ASCUNITED.CA

SOCCER  
THE  
BEAUTIFUL  
GAME



**ESSA  
TOWNSHIP**  
ADMINISTRATION CENTRE

# Contact Us

## Contact Us

### Recreation Programmer

Alex Jacobs

(705) 424-9917 ext. 107

[ajacobs@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:ajacobs@essatownship.on.ca)

### Bookings Administrator

Abbey McClinton

(705) 424-9917 ext. 108

[amccinton@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:amccinton@essatownship.on.ca)

## Visit Us

### Township of Essa Administration Centre

5786 County Road 21, Utopia, ON

### Administration Centre

#### Hours of Operation:

**Monday to Friday**

**8:30 AM - 4:30 PM**

## Social Media



**Facebook**

[@Township of Essa](#)



**X (Formerly Twitter)**

[@essatownship](#)



**Youtube**

[@townshipofessa2377](#)



**Instagram**

[@essafire](#)